

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 RSC-01

OES-04 H-02 L-02 OIC-02 AEC-07 SP-02 AID-05 EB-06

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AGR-10 COME-00 SWF-01 NSCE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15

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UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 ROME 15765

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, UNWFC

SUBJ: WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE - ANNE ARMSTRONG'S SPEECH,  
NOVEMBER 12, 1974

PASS TO MISS BETH GORDON, OFFICE OF ANNE ARMSTRONG AT  
THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS BY ANNE ARMSTRONG, COUNSELLOR TO THE PRESIDENT,  
US REPRESENTATIVE TO THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE BEFORE THE  
NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS, ROME, NOVEMBER 12, 1974.

BEGIN TEXT: IS INDEED A PRIVILEGE TO BE WITH YOU THIS  
AFTERNOON. I HAVE SPECIAL REGARD FOR THOSE WHO, LIKE YOUR-  
SELVES, HAVE STRONG CONVICTIONS /AND/ WHO GET THINGS DONE.  
SO, I'M DELIGHTED THAT WE HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SPEND SOME  
TIME TOGETHER, AND I THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME.

LET ME SAY AT THE OUTSET HOW ENCOURAGED I AM BY THE SPIRIT  
OF THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE. ALTHOUGH THERE ARE HONEST  
DIFFERENCES OVER THE BEST WAYS TO INCREASE THE AVAILABILITY  
OF FOOD TO THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST, IT IS HEARTENING TO SEE  
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THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD UNITED IN THEIR DETERMINATION TO

CONQUER GLOBAL HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION.

I RECALL THE STATEMENT CONCERNING THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A POLITICIAN AND A STATESMAN. THE POLITICIAN THINKS OF THE NEXT ELECTION; THE STATESMAN OF THE NEXT GENERATION. IN A VERY REAL AND VITAL SENSE, I BELIEVE THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE REPRESENTS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR GLOBAL STATESMANSHIP.

FURTHERMORE, AS THIS GATHERING ITSELF SO WELL DEMONSTRATES, THERE ARE MANY MOVERS AND SHAKERS WHO ARE NOT GOVERNMENT DELEGATES. AND I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT WE IN THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION HAVE GREAT RESPECT AND APPRECIATION FOR THE WORK OF THE NONGOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS AT THIS CONFERENCE. JUST YESTERDAY IN COMMITTEE ONE, IT WAS MY PRIVILEGE TO DELIVER THE UNITED STATES' ENDORSEMENT OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION ON "WOMEN AND FOOD." I KNOW THAT DRAFT RESOLUTION HAD ITS GENESIS AMONG THE NONGOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS, AND I AM PROUD THAT THE UNITED STATES IS NOW A CO-SPONSOR.

THE DRAFT RESOLUTION ON "WOMEN AND FOOD" RECOGNIZES THE NEED TO FULLY INVOLVE WOMEN IN THE ATTACK ON HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION IN THE WORLD. IT FORTHRIGHTLY CALLS ON GOVERNMENTS TO UTILIZE THIS VALUABLE HUMAN RESOURCE IN THE FORMULATION OF THE TOTAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY, AND IT AFFIRMS THE BENEFITS OF SUCH AN EFFORT. THE UNITED STATES FELT, HOWEVER, THAT THE DRAFT RESOLUTION SHOULD BE EVEN STRONGER. WHILE IT RECOGNIZED THE CONTRIBUTION THAT WOMEN CAN MAKE IN SOLVING FOOD PROBLEMS, IT DID NOT ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF EQUALITY IN ITS BROADEST, MOST FUNDAMENTAL SENSE. TO THE EXTENT THAT WOMEN ARE DENIED BASIC EQUALITY IN SOCIETY AS A WHOLE, THEIR EFFECTIVENESS IN THE BATTLE AGAINST HUNGER IS IMPAIRED. THEREFORE, THE UNITED STATES OFFERED AN AMENDMENT CALLING ON ALL GOVERNMENTS TO PROMOTE EQUAL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR MEN AND WOMEN IN ORDER THAT THE ENERGY, TALENT, AND ABILITY OF WOMEN CAN BE FULLY UTILIZED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH MEN IN THE BATTLE AGAINST HUNGER.

NOW IN OFFERING THIS AMENDMENT, WE WERE NOT POINTING A FINGER AT ANYONE ELSE. IN OUR OWN COUNTRY, WHILE SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS IS BEING MADE TOWARD EQUAL RIGHTS FOR WOMEN, MUCH UNCLASSIFIED

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WORK REMAINS.

ONE OF MY RESPONSIBILITIES AS COUNSELLOR TO PRESIDENT FORD IS THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN. THE PRESIDENT IS FULLY DEDICATED TO THIS GOAL, AND HE WANTS TO MAKE SURE THAT MORE QUALIFIED WOMEN ARE PLACED IN POLICY-LEVEL POSITIONS. WE HAVE MADE MANY BREAKTHROUGHS IN POSITIONS NEVER BEFORE HELD BY WOMEN, SUCH AS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FEDERAL TARIFF COMMISSION, THE

CHAIRMAN OF THE FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION, THE ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, CIVIL DIVISION, THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENERGY MATTERS, AND THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION - DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

WE HAVE MADE PROGRESS IN AMERICA NOT ONLY IN GOVERNMENT, BUT IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR AS WELL. WE HAVE AMPLE EVIDENCE FOR ANY WHO MAY STILL DOUBT IT THAT WHEN WOMEN ARE ON AN EQUAL FOOTING WITH MEN, THEIR IMPACT IS EVERY BIT AS SIGNIFICANT.

I AM SURE MOST OF YOU KNOW THAT 1975 HAS BEEN PROCLAIMED INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR BY THE UNITED NATIONS, AND A WORLDWIDE CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD IN MEXICO CITY. MANY VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS HAVE ALREADY BEGUN TO FOCUS ON THE IWY THEME: EQUALITY, DEVELOPMENT, AND PEACE. I AM HOPEFUL THAT MANY OF YOU WILL BE INVOLVED IN INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR, AS YOUR CONTRIBUTION CAN BE A MAJOR ONE.

ANOTHER ONE OF MY WHITE HOUSE RESPONSIBILITIES IS TO SERVE AS THE PRESIDENT'S LIAISON WITH YOUNG PEOPLE IN AMERICA, AND THAT HAS BEEN A PARTICULARLY INSPIRATIONAL ASSIGNMENT. IN THE SPIRIT OF THE NONGOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS AT THIS CONFERENCE, YOUNG PEOPLE IN OUR COUNTRY ARE GETTING INVOLVED IN CIVIC AFFAIRS AND PROBLEMS SUCH AS POVERTY AND POLLUTION.

MANY NATIONAL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS ARE BECOMING MORE ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY-ORIENTED PROGRAMS.

FOR EXAMPLE, THE FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA, WHICH IS ONE OF THE MAJOR NATIONAL VOCATIONAL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAS A MEMBERSHIP OF OVER 450,000, HAS INITIATED A PROGRAM CALLED "BETTERING OUR AMERICAN COMMUNITIES." IN ADDITION, UNCLASSIFIED

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MANY OF THE MAJOR HEALTH SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS ARE STARTING YOUTH AUXILIARIES WITH REPRESENTATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE ON THEIR BOARDS OF DIRECTORS. FOR EXAMPLE, THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY NOW HAS A NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL WHICH HAS INVOLVED THOUSANDS OF STUDENTS IN EVERY AREA OF THE SOCIETY. IN ADDITION, YOUTH GROUPS SUCH AS THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT COUNCILS, THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC YOUTH ORGANIZATION, AND CIRCLE K INTERNATIONAL HAVE JOINED IN THE FIGHT BECAUSE THEY RECOGNIZED THAT YOUNG ADULTS MUST BRING THEIR LEADERSHIP AGAINST A DISEASE THAT DIRECTLY AFFECTS THEIR POPULATION. THE NATIONAL JAYCEES AND THE AMERICAN RED CROSS ARE ALSO BECOMING MORE INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, ESPECIALLY THOSE GEARED TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS.

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 RSC-01 ISO-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8109

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 ROME 15765

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, UNWFC

SUBJ: WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE - ANNE ARMSTRONG'S SPEECH,  
NOVEMBER 12, 1974

PASS TO MISS BETH GORDON, OFFICE OF ANNE ARMSTRONG AT  
THE WHITE HOUSE

THE VOCATIONAL INDUSTRIAL CLUBS OF AMERICA PRESENTED A  
RESOLUTION ON BEHALF OF ITS 200,000 MEMBERS SUPPORTING OUR  
GOVERNMENT'S ANTI-INFLATION PROGRAM, AND PRESIDENT FORD  
CHOSE A NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA  
TO DELIVER HIS NATIONWIDE INFLATION MESSAGE. HAVING BEEN  
IN OFFICE LESS THAN A MONTH, PRESIDENT FORD MET WITH THE  
NATIONAL OFFICERS OF THE 22 MAJOR NATIONAL STUDENT ORGA-  
NIZATIONS TO GET THEIR IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS WITH REGARD  
TO THE FUNDAMENTAL ISSUES CONFRONTING YOUTH TODAY. DRUGS,  
UNEMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION, JUVENILE DELINQUENCY, AND VOLUNTARY  
ACTION WERE SOME OF THE TOPICS DISCUSSED.

OF COURSE, THERE ARE OTHER MOTIVES FOR CONCERNED CITIZENS  
TO GET TOGETHER TO PURSUE IMPORTANT GOALS -- MOTIVES THAT  
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TRANSCEND "NATURAL" FACTORS SUCH AS AGE OR SEX. AND THE DRIVING FORCE OF THE NONGOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS' ACTIVITIES IS A PERFECT EXAMPLE. AND ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS YOURS HAVE MORE THAN GOOD MOTIVES. YOU KNOW -- FROM EXPERIENCE -- WHAT WORKS AND WHAT DOESN'T. THOSE OF YOU INVOLVED IN SUCH ACTIVITIES AS FOOD DISTRIBUTION AND NUTRITION EDUCATION KNOW VERY WELL THE IMPORTANCE OF A GRASS ROOTS APPROACH TO SPECIFIC PROBLEMS. WORKING WITH LOCAL LEADERS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IS A MUST.

NOT ONLY HAVE YOU BEEN GETTING THE JOB DONE. YOUR CREATIVE EFFORTS OUT IN THE FIELD HAVE BEEN BENEFICIAL IN THEMSELVES, AND THEY HAVE BEEN THE GUIDING LIGHT, IN MANY CASES, TO GOVERNMENTS SEEKING TO IMPROVE THEIR ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

AT THIS POINT, I WOULD LIKE TO DIGRESS FOR A MOMENT WITH A REFERENCE TO A UNITED STATES DOMESTIC ECONOMIC ISSUE. AS A MEMBER OF PRESIDENT FORD'S NEW COUNCIL ON WAGE AND PRICE STABILITY, I HAVE A GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBILITY IN OUR BATTLE AGAINST INFLATION. AND WITH THE PRESIDENT'S WIN PROGRAM -- WHIP INFLATION NOW --, THE VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES HAVE A MAJOR SHARE OF THE VOLUNTARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR MOBILIZING ANTI-INFLATION ACTIVITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SO, LET ME ENCOURAGE YOU AMERICANS TO DO ALL YOU CAN.

INFLATION, OF COURSE, IS ALSO A GLOBAL MATTER, AND IT HAS CERTAINLY AGGRAVATED THE PROBLEM OF HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION IN THE WORLD. THEREFORE, I WOULD URGE ALL OF YOU TO THINK OF WAYS YOUR VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS COULD HELP TO WHIP INFLATION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. IF WE COULD DO THAT, WE WOULD BE WELL ON OUR WAY TOWARD MANY OF THE GOALS OF THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE.

SECRETARY KISSINGER'S STATEMENT ON OPENING DAY SUMMONED THE FORCES FOR THE ATTACK ON THE PROBLEM OF WORLD HUNGER. THE SUPPORTIVE TELEGRAM SENT TO PRESIDENT FORD ON THURSDAY BY THE AMERICAN FREEDOM FROM HUNGER FOUNDATION AND THE WORLD HUNGER ACTION COALITION SHOWS THE SPIRIT AND THE COOPERATION THAT WILL BE REQUIRED TO DEAL WITH THIS COMPLEX PROBLEM.

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THERE IS MUCH WORK TO BE DONE, AND TOGETHER WE CAN DO IT.  
END TEXT.VOLPE

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## Message Attributes

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